

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1056
By Clabough

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Justin Shults, 2004
Valedictorian of Gatlinburg-Pittman High School.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those students who through their natural talents and unflagging commitment to academic excellence have distinguished themselves in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Justin Shults is one such exceptional student who was recently named Valedictorian of the 2004 graduating class at Gatlinburg-Pittman High School; and

WHEREAS, through diligent study, steady composure during examinations, and steadfast commitment of time and talent, Mr. Shults has achieved outstanding academic success, and has joined the ranks of the best and brightest students in Tennessee and our country; and

WHEREAS, in his remarkable high school career, Mr. Shults has earned an exemplary 4.0 grade point average and has been selected as a National Merit Scholar; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Shults has been honored with many accolades for his academic success, including receipts of awards for his participation in the Regional Examination for Algebra II and PreCalculus (in which he earned third place) as well as for the highest average in Economics, Honors English III, Diversified Technology, Honors Algebra II, Trigonometry, PreCalculus, Latin I and II, U.S. Government, Anatomy and Physiology, and Honors Biology II; and

WHEREAS, an astute and dedicated scholar, Mr. Shults has attained Perfect Attendance, has been included the on Gold Honor Roll and the *Who's Who Among American High School Students*, and has received the United States Achievement Academy National Science Award in addition to being selected as an All-American Scholar by the Academy, and was also honored as a Coca-Cola Semi-Finalist; and

WHEREAS, an avid linguist, Mr. Shults has earned Summa Cum Laude honors for Latin I and II, as well as receiving a Gold Medal and Certificate of Honorable Merit Summa Cum Laude for Outstanding Performance on the National Latin Exam; and

WHEREAS, an active and important part of his school, Mr. Shults has held membership in such laudable organizations as the Junior Classical League, Latin Club, Key Club, Mu Alpha Theta, Beta Club, Student Council, Christians in Action, and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes; and

WHEREAS, establishing himself as a leader among his peers, Mr. Shults was chosen to attend the National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine, the 2003 National Student Leadership Conference, and Gatlinburg Government Day, in addition to being selected as a Student Council Junior Class Representative and Team Captain in his Biology II and Anatomy and Physiology classes; he has also helped lead Kids Vote and was a co-contributor for a World War II Research project; and

WHEREAS, excelling in athletics as well as in the classroom, Mr. Shults has played an important part on the Freshman Basketball team, Junior Varsity Basketball team, and Varsity Tennis team, for which he has served as Co-Captain; and

WHEREAS, a public-minded citizen of the highest order, Mr. Shults has participated in the Alzheimer's Walk, food drives, Christmas present wrapping, and fundraising for the American Red Cross and Toys for Tots, in addition to tutoring fellow students; and

WHEREAS, a devout Christian, Mr. Shults has been active in his church's Youth Group, teaching Sunday School classes on Youth Sunday, helping lead Christmas plays, teaching Bible School classes, attending Youth Conferences in North Carolina, and visiting local nursing homes; and

WHEREAS, possessing a strong work ethic, Mr. Shults has been a highly respected employee of Nascar Speedpark and Appleview Acres; and

WHEREAS, the intellectual aptitude and ambition that Mr. Shults displays surely bodes well for his future success; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Shults' noteworthy achievement is a tremendous source of pride for his parents, Sheila King and Jeff Shults, his school, and his community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Shults' dedication to excellence is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby commend and honor 2004 Gatlinburg-Pittman High School Valedictorian, Justin Shults, on his impressive academic achievement, and extend to him our best wishes for a happy, successful future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.